

## **DECISION MEMORANDUM**

**TO:           COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER  
COMMISSIONER REDFORD  
COMMISSIONER SMITH  
COMMISSION SECRETARY  
COMMISSION STAFF  
LEGAL**

**FROM:       WELDON STUTZMAN  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**DATE:       SEPTEMBER 6, 2011**

**SUBJECT:    CASE NOS. AVU-E-11-02 AND AVU-G-11-03  
AVISTA CORPORATION'S APPLICATION TO DECREASE ITS  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY RIDER SCHEDULES 91 AND 191**

On June 13, 2011, Avista Corporation filed an Application requesting authorization to decrease its Energy Efficiency Rider Schedule 91 (electric) and 191 (natural gas). The Company proposed to decrease the revenue it collected under the electric Schedule 91 by 0.3% of billed rates, or approximately \$750,000. Revenue collected under the natural gas Schedule 191 would decrease by \$2.9 million, or 4.2% of billed retail rates. On June 28, 2011, the Commission issued a Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure to process Avista's Application. On July 14, 2011, Avista filed a Motion to extend the comment period for an unspecified period of time, and on July 20, 2011, the Commission issued Order No. 32295 approving Avista's Motion.

On August 26, 2011, Avista and Staff filed a Motion for Approval of Stipulation and Settlement in the Company's rate case. As part of the settlement, Avista agreed to withdraw its request for a decrease in the electric Schedule 91, but the settlement anticipated that the requested decrease in Schedule 191 for the gas rider would go into effect on October 1, 2011. On August 30, 2011, Avista filed a Motion to Withdraw its Application regarding Schedule 91, and requesting Commission approval of the decrease in Schedule 191 effective October 1, 2011.

Staff recommends the Commission issue an Order (1) allowing the Company to withdraw its Application to decrease the electric Rider, and (2) establishing a comment period on Avista's request to make its proposed decrease in Schedule 191 effective October 1, 2011. Staff

recommends the Commission issue an Order establishing a comment period through September 22, 2011. This schedule would enable the Commission to accept written comments and render a decision regarding Avista's Motion prior to October 1, 2011.

**COMMISSION DECISION**

Should the Commission issue an Order (1) allowing the Company to withdraw its Application to decrease the electric Rider and (2) establishing a comment period on Avista's request to make its proposed decrease in Schedule 191 effective October 1, 2011?



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Weldon B. Stutzman  
Deputy Attorney General

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